

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

The present listing of claims replaces all prior listings or versions of claims in the present application.

1. (Currently Amended) A community providing server providing a virtual community for a user who has a user terminal connected to the server via a network, the server comprising:
 - a user management information database for storing information concerning registered users who are registered with the virtual community;
 - a contents database for storing contents data constituting the virtual community; and
 - a control means for issuing, for the purpose of mounting a virtual tag community on a first website of the registered user, a community tag ~~that~~^{which} is to be inserted in HTML data constituting the first website.
2. (Currently Amended) The community providing server as defined in Claim 1, wherein,
 - the user management information database stores information concerning an avatar ~~that~~^{which} is a character acting for each user in the virtual tag community, and
 - the control means performs control to show ~~the~~^{an} avatar acting for a user who is accessing the first website having the virtual tag community in the virtual tag community.
3. (Currently Amended) The community providing server as defined in Claim 2, wherein,
 - when a user who has not logged into the virtual community accesses the first website having the virtual tag community, the control means performs control to show a specific character ~~that~~^{which} indicates ~~that~~ the user is not in a logged-in state in the virtual tag community.

4. (Currently Amended) The community providing server as defined in ~~any of~~ Claim 1,
wherein,

the user management information database stores an address of a second website of a
user ~~owning~~ owning a second website having the virtual tag community among the registered
users, and

the control means provides ~~the~~ information of the address of the second website for a
user via the virtual tag community.

5. (Currently Amended) The community providing server as defined in ~~any of~~ Claim 1,
wherein,

the contents database stores information of a map of the whole virtual community,
and

the user management information database stores information of an address of a
registered user, and

the control means provides the information of the map and the address for a user via
the virtual tag community.

6. (Currently Amended) The community providing server as defined in Claim 5, wherein the
control means searches the registered users on a prescribed condition with reference to the
information of the user management information database and further refers to the
information of the map and ~~the~~ address, resulting in the control means outputting a result of
~~a~~ the search linked to the information of the map.

7. (Original) A virtual community system providing a virtual community for a user, the
system comprising:

a virtual community providing server, a user terminal, and a user website server,
connected to each other via a network; and wherein,

the community providing server comprises a user management information database
for storing information concerning registered users who are registered with the virtual
community, a contents database for storing contents data constituting the virtual community,
and a control means for issuing, for the purpose of mounting a virtual tag community on a
website of the registered user, a community tag which is to be inserted in HTML data
constituting the website, and

the user website server comprises storage for saving HTML data into which the
community tag is inserted.

8. (Currently Amended) A virtual community providing method for providing a virtual
community for a user who has a user terminal connected to a community providing server via
a network, the method comprising:

a step for issuing a community tag for a user who accesses the community server and
registers with the virtual community in order to mount a virtual tag community on a website
of the registered user; and

inserting the community tag ~~being inserted in~~ HTML data constituting the website.

9. (Currently Amended) A virtual community providing program, stored on a computer
readable medium, for causing a computer connected to a user terminal via a network to
provide a virtual community for a user who is using ~~has~~ the user terminal, wherein

the program causes the computer to execute a step of issuing a community tag for a
user who accesses the community and registers with the virtual community in order to mount
a virtual tag community on a website of the registered user; and

the program causes the community tag to bebeing inserted in HTML data constituting
the website.

10. (NEW) The community providing server as defined in Claim 1, wherein,
- the user management information database stores information concerning an avatar
that is a character acting for each user in the virtual tag community, and
- the control means performs control to show the avatar acting for a user who is
accessing the first website having the community tag in the virtual tag community.